

Definitions of Selected NH Municipal Ordinances

Impervious Surface:

Any surface that cannot effectively absorb or infiltrate rainfall. (Wakefield)

A surface through which regulated substances cannot pass when spilled. Imperious surfaces include concrete unless unsealed cracks or holes are present. Asphalt; earthen, wooden or gravel surfaces; or other surfaces which could react with or dissolve when in contact with the substances stored on them are not considered impervious surfaces. (Newport)

A surface covered by any material (such as pavement, cement, roofing) that prevents surface water from penetrating the soil directly. (Somersworth)

Development:

Any construction or grading activities on real estate for other than agricultural or forestry practices. (Wakefield)

Any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including, but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavating or drilling operation, or storage of equipment or materials. (Floodplain Ordinances)

The division of a parcel of land into two or more parcels; the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any structure; any mining, excavation, landfill, or land disturbance; and any use or extension of the use of land. (Berlin)

Others:

BUILDING SITE: Shall mean that portion of a lot, tract, or parcel of land upon which a building is placed. (Weare)

BUILDING COVERAGE: The ratio of the combined horizontal area of all primary and accessory buildings on the lot, measured from the exterior surface of the exterior walls at ground level, to the total lot area. (Berlin)

COVERAGE: That percentage of the lot area covered by a building. Where not otherwise specified, coverage shall be limited by set-back requirements. (New Boston)

BUILDING AREA: The aggregate of the maximum horizontal cross-section area of all buildings on a lot exclusive of cornices, eaves, gutters, chimneys, unenclosed porches, bay windows, balconies and terraces, expressed as a percentage of total lot area. (Nashua)

Zoning Provisions of Selected NH Municipal Ordinances

Municipality	Zoning Provision	Limit	Regulated Area	Restriction Type
Weare	Aquifer Protection Zone	10%	lot	Impervious Surface
Wakefield	Aquifer Conservation Overlay	50%	buildable area	Impervious Surface
Newport	Source water Protection Ordinance	15%*	lot	Impervious Surface
Berlin	Commercial and Industrial Zones	75%	lot	Impervious Surface
Berlin	Commercial Zones	50%	lot	Building Coverage
Berlin	Wellhead Protection Overlay Zone	20%*	lot	Impervious Surface
New Boston	Groundwater Resource Conservation District	30%	lot	Impervious Surface
Somersworth	Groundwater Protection District	10%	lot	Impervious Surface
Somersworth	Residential w/Com, Off, or Bus & Com/Ind	40%	lot	Building Coverage
Meredith	Residential and Non-Waterfront Shoreline Zoning Districts	30%	lot	Maximum Lot Coverage
Meredith	Meredith Neck, Forestry and Conservation, and Forestry/Rural Zoning Districts	25%	lot	Maximum Lot Coverage